Kalazar Eradication Programme

†3925. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ex-Minister of health has written a letter to Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister for inclusion of proposed Kalazar Eradication Programme in the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details with regard to proposed programme alongwith the amount likely to be spent on the implementation of the same; and

(c) the decision and intention of Government with regard to inclusion of proposed programme in the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has already included the proposal of Kalazar elimination from India in the Tenth Five Year Plan. The objective has been listed in the National Health Policy-2002. Out of total allocation of Rs. 1370 crore for National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, a provision of Rs. 217 crore has been proposed for Kalazar elimination during the Tenth Five Year Plan. An EFC memo has been circulated and appraised by the Planning Commission as well as Ministry of Finance. The EFC Memo envisages central support for material as well as operational cost for the programme implementation.

Inedible Khesari dal

†3926. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khesari dal has been declared inedible and poisonous;

(b) whether there is a possibility of neuro-letharism after its consumption; and

(c) the details of scientific study conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) As per the study conducted at the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, Khesari dal contains a neurotoxin, B-N-Oxalyl-Aminoalanine (BOAA), which causes paralysis of lower limbs. Under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules 1955, the sale or storage for sale of Khesari dal is prohibited.

†*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.*